CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5   1.   A method of transferring information comprising the steps of:

a) a first handheld device causing an account to be accessed that is stored on a remote server, said account reserved for a second handheld device and describing a complement of information stored in said second handheld device;

b) said account modified to identify an information that resides on said

10 remote server but not on said second handheld device;

c) said second handheld device establishing a connection with said remote server; and

d) said remote server automatically determining, from said account, that said information is new to said second handheld device and in response thereto

15 for automatically downloading said information to said second handheld device.

2.   A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising the step of said first handheld device sending said remote server a token identifying said information and said second handheld and wherein said token causes said

20 account to be modified by said remote server.

3.   A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first and said second handheld devices are handheld computer systems.

4.   A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said information is a version of an application program.

5.   A method as described in Claim 4 wherein said account comprises

5 an application version record table comprising an entry for each application stored in said second handheld device and wherein each entry comprises: an application identifier; a version identifier; and a user identifier.

6.   A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said step of automatically

10 downloading said information to said second handheld device, of step d), is performed only if said first handheld device has authority to download to said second handheld device.

7.   A method as described in Claim 6 wherein said authority is

15 established via an express grant of permission from said second handheld device to said first handheld device.

8.   A method as described in Claim 6 wherein said authority is established via a user confirmation that is made in response to a user message

20 displayed on a display screen of said second handheld device.

9.   A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said remote server is a web based server.

10.   A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said step d) is performed within a synchronization process between said remote server and said second handheld device.

5   11.   A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said step d) is performed within a synchronization process between a host computer system and said second handheld device.

12.   A system comprising:

10   a receiver handheld device;

a remote server containing an account reserved for said receiver handheld device which describes a complement of information stored in said receiver handheld device;

a sender handheld device for causing said account to be modified to

15   identify an information that resides on said remote server but not on said receiver handheld device;

wherein said receiver handheld device is for establishing a connection with said remote server; and

wherein said remote server is for automatically determining, from said

20   account, that said information is new to said receiver handheld device and automatically for downloading said information to said receiver handheld device.

13.   A system as described in Claim 12 wherein said sender handheld is for sending said remote server a token identifying both said information and said

receiver handheld and wherein said token causes said remote server to modify said account.

14.   A system as described in Claim 12 wherein said sender and said

5   receiver handheld devices are handheld computer systems.

15.   A system as described in Claim 12 wherein said information is a version of an application program.

10   16.   A system as described in Claim 15 wherein said account comprises an application version record table comprising an entry for each application stored in said receiver handheld device and wherein each entry comprises: an application identifier; a version identifier; and a user identifier.

15   17.   A system as described in Claim 12 wherein said remote server is also for determining if said sender handheld device has authority to download to said receiver handheld device as a precursor to downloading said information to said receiver handheld device.

20   18.   A system as described in Claim 17 wherein said authority is established via an express grant of permission from said receiver to said sender handheld device.

19.   A system as described in Claim 17 wherein said authority is established via a user confirmation that is made in response to a user message displayed on a display screen of said receiver handheld device.

5   20.   A system as described in Claim 12 wherein said remote server is a web based server.

21.   A system comprising:

a receiver handheld computer;

10   a web based server containing an account reserved for said receiver handheld computer which describes a complement of information stored in said receiver handheld computer;

a sender handheld computer for causing said account to be modified to identify an information that resides on said web based server but not on said

15   receiver handheld computer;

wherein said receiver handheld computer is for establishing a connection with said web based server; and

wherein said web based server automatically determines, from said account, that said information is new to said receiver handheld computer, also

20   determines if said sender handheld computer has authority to download to said receiver handheld computer, and, if so, automatically downloads said information to said receiver handheld computer.

22.   A system as described in Claim 21 wherein said sender handheld is

25   for sending said remote server a token identifying both said information and said

receiver handheld and wherein said token causes said web based server to modify said account.

23.   A system as described in Claim 21 wherein said information is a version of an application program.

24.   A system as described in Claim 21 wherein said account comprises an application version record table comprising an entry for each application stored in said receiver handheld computer and wherein each entry comprises: an application identifier; a version identifier; and a user identifier.